

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Replacement Sheets are attached hereto which include clean versions of FIGs. 1-4 and 8.
The attached sheets replace FIGs. 1-4 and 8 filed on January 19, 2011.

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated June 21, 2011 in the above-identified application. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following comments, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 were previously pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 8-10 and 12 have been amended, and claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-19 are currently pending, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-19 because the term “dampened” should be changed to “damped” and the term “dampening” should be changed to “damping”. Claims 1, 8-10 and 12 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to FIGs. 1-4 and 8 of the drawings filed January 19, 2011 as being too dark for details of the invention to be clearly seen. Enclosed herewith are Replacement Drawings for FIGs. 1-4 and 8. The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve the Replacement Drawings.

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner asserts that the term “dead space” in claim 5 is unclear. Claim 5 has been amended to delete the allegedly unclear term.

The Examiner asserts that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation “a charging aperture” in claim 7 and suggests that claim 7 should depend from claim 2. However, as discussed below, the limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into amended claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 now provides sufficient antecedent basis for the limitations of claim 7.

Based upon the foregoing discussion, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5, 6 and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Edwards (US 1,300,710) in view of Frei (US 5,361,927), Dolby (US 4,940,191)

and Whitley (US 5,102,002). Claims 8-12 are rejected under under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Edwards in view of Frei, Dolby and Whitley as applied to claim 1, further in view of Fukuo (US 2003/0080131). Claims 2-4, 7, 13 and 14 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The indication of allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation.

Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejections set forth above. Nonetheless, in order to advance prosecution of the application, the limitations of allowable claim 2 have been incorporated into amended claim 1. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-19 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Based upon the above discussion, claims 1 and 3-19 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. H0309.70013US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 14, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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